

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
NORTH FLORIDA
Free Will Baptist Association

HELD WITH
Mount Willing Church
SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
October 6, 7, 8, A. D. 1927

OFFICERS:

REV. B. W. CARLTON, Moderator ----- Perry, Fla.
H. G. TOUGHTON, Clerk ----- O'Brien, Fla.
W. R. DORMAN, Treasurer ----- Perry, Fla.

Next session to convene with St. John's Church, Taylor County, Fla., on Thursday night before the second Sunday in October 1928. The introductory sermon asked to be preached by M. H. Touchton. Delegates will be met at Perry, Fla.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
1927

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Session of the North Florida Free Will Baptist Association met with Mount Willing Church, Suwannee County, Fla., on October 6, 7, 8, A. D. 1927.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. B. W. Carlton, Prayer by Rev. M. H. Touchton. Scripture lesson, the 27th chapter of St. Matthew. Text: 17th verse. Song No. 28, 'Whiter than Snow.' Benediction: The Lord's prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The body called to order by the moderator. Song No. 23, in the "Favorite Hymn Book." Prayer by Bro. D. D. Poppel. Letters called for. Letters received and delegates enrolled as follows:

Mt. Willing:—C. S. Touchton, V. A. Hart, J. B. Bryant, H. H. Hairgroves.

St. John:—D. D. Poppel, F. A. Pridgeon.

Petitionary letters called for. None received.

Officers were elected as follows: H. G. Touchton, Clerk; W. R. Dorman, Treasurer; Rev. B. W. Carlton, Moderator; Rev. M. H. Touchton, Assistant Moderator.

We invite visiting brethren to seats with us. Corresponding messengers, none.

Moved and carried that we adjourn for preaching. Song No. 138. The Lord's prayer by the body.

Friday 11 o'clock service conducted by Rev. W. J. Williams. Song No. 26. Prayer by Sister Floy Touchton. Scripture lesson, the 14th chapter of Matthew. Text: 42nd verse. Song No. 134. Dismissed by H. H. Hairgroves.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body was called to order by the moderator. Song No. 119. Prayer by Bro. J. H. Lee. Decorum read and roll called.

Committees were named as follows:

On Preaching, Temperance, Finance, Nominations, Education, Sunday School. Reports received and approved.

Adjourned for preaching. Song No. 49. Dismissed by prayer by Rev. B. W. Carlton.

Friday 4 o'clock service was conducted by Rev. Pate Williams. Song No. 59. Prayer by Rev. H. H. Hairgroves. Scripture lesson, 1 John 15th verse. Song No. 135. Dismissed by Bro. D. D. Poppel.

Friday 7:30 service. After a short prayer service, song No. 23. Rev. B. W. Carlton took the stand. Scripture lesson, 15th chapter of St. John and text, the 14th verse. Song No. 6. Dismissed by H. G. Touchton.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The body was called to order by the moderator. Song No. 95. Prayer by Rev. M. H. Touchton. Roll called. Decorum read.

Reports on State of Ministers, Deacons, and Obituaries read and approved.

Unfinished business. Discussion of Executive Committee.

Moved and carried that we elect an executive committee.

Moved and carried that we nominate Bros. Will Evans, V. A. Hart, Charley Murphrey. Adjournment for preaching and refreshments.

Saturday 11:30 o'clock service was conducted by Rev. W. J. Williams. Song No. 56. Prayer by Bro. Pate Williams. Scripture lesson, 21st chapter of St. John. Text: 18th verse. Song No. 28, in Windows of Heaven. Dismissed by Bro. Pate Williams.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body was called to order by the moderator. Song No. 99. Prayer by Bro. H. H. Hairgraves. Roll called. Decorum read.

Miscellaneous Business.

Moved and carried that we have one hundred minutes printed. It was carried that we pay the clerk \$10.00. Carried that we elect Rev. M. H. Touchton, evangelist worker for the next ensuing year.

Moved and carried that we renominate the same Sunday School Board, namely; Bro. J. H. Lee, Pate Williams, Linnie Touchton, Sister Addie Grubbs, W. R. Dorman, W. L. Osteen.

Carried that the clerk prepare the card of thanks. The treasurer's report was read and approved. The entire proceedings were read and approved. Carried that we adjourn business. Song No. 93. Prayer by Rev. B. W. Carlton.

Saturday 4 o'clock service conducted by Bro. Pate Williams. Song No. 34. Prayer by Rev. B. W. Carlton. Scripture lesson, 17th chapter of St. John, text: 8th verse. Song No. 54 in the Windows of Heaven. Dismissed by prayer by Bro. J. H. Lee.

Saturday 7:30 P. M., service. Song No. 18 in the Windows of Heaven. Prayer by Bro. D. D. Poppel. After a short prayer service, Rev. B. W. Carlton took the stand. Scripture lesson, the 13th chapter of St. John, text the 18th verse. After commemorating the Paschal Supper, we were dismissed by singing song No. 138, title: "Near the Cross."

Sunday 11:30 A. M., service, was conducted by Rev. J. H. Cruce. Song No. 119. Prayer by Bro. H. H. Hairgraves. Scripture lesson 6th chapter of Romans; text, first verse. Song No. 37. Dismissed by Rev. M. H. Touchton.

Sunday evening service was conducted by a Sunday School Program, in "Christian Warfare." Dialogues, speeches, Scripture lessons, songs, prayers, and praising the Lord. After which, the session closed, by the ministers and delegates taking the parting hand and singing, "God be with you till we meet again." May God bless all.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Report of Committee on Preaching.

Friday 11 A. M., Rev. W. J. Williams preach. Friday 4 P. M., Bro.

Pate Williams. Friday 7:30 P. M., Rev. B. W. Carlton; Saturday 11 A. M., Rev. W. J. Williams. Saturday 4 P. M., Bro. Pate Williams. Saturday 7:30 P. M., Bro. B. W. Carlton. Sunday 11 A. M., Rev. J. H. Cruce.

D. D. POPPEL, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

We, your Committee on Temperance submit to your consideration the following: As temperance is a great benevolence, we should first obey the Spirit.

2. We should guard the tongue.
3. We should resist intoxication.
4. Quench lust.
5. Serve the stomach proper.
6. Take care of the system.
7. Keep the head balanced.
8. Let charity rule in the heart.

M. H. TOUCHTON, Chairman.

Report of Finance Committee.

We, your committee, report as follows:

Received from Mount Willing -----	\$10.00
From St. John -----	10.00
Total -----	\$20.00

V. A. HART, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Nominations.

We, your Committee, ask that the next session of the Association convene with St. Johns Church, Taylor County, Fla., Thursday night before the second Sunday in October, 1928. Rev. M. H. Touchton is to preach the introductory sermon. Delegates to be met at Perry, Fla.

D. D. POPPEL, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Education.

We, your Committee on Education submit the following for your consideration: Literal education is great, but with this alone we are in danger of destruction, for we see that the wise men of Babylon were destroyed for not having wisdom above that. Daniel was saved because of the wisdom of God. Again we see that Paul said he did not come with the excellence of speech but with the wisdom of God, speaking the truth in Christ Jesus. So we see that God gives wisdom to the humble. God bless.

M. H. TOUCHTON, Chairman.

Report of Sunday School Committee.

We your Committee on Sunday School beg leave to report:

We praise and thank our Lord Jesus Christ that we have two successful Sunday Schools established in our churches. We have one at Mt. Willing and one at St. Johns, which have been running successfully for the past associational year. We pray God's blessings on these Sunday Schools, that

they may continue to grow stronger in the work of the Lord.

We highly recommend Sunday Schools, as we believe they prepare the young people for better workers for the Lord.

LINNIE TOUCHTON, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Ministers and Deacons.

We, your committee beg leave to report as follows:

As far as we know our ministers and deacons are all in good standing, and we pray God's blessings upon them, that they may uphold our faith to the end.

V. A. HART, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Obituaries.

We, your Committee on Obituaries, beg leave to submit the following report:

We find that the Lord has visited our ranks and taken away one only of our members this associational year, that being Sister Mary Touchton. We hope and trust that she was prepared for the occasion, and that our loss is her eternal gain. We pray for her bereaved survivors.

M. H. TOUCHTON, Chairman.

Treasurer's Report.

Balance in treasury October 1, 1926.....	\$11.75
Received from Association in 1926.....	24.00
Total	\$35.75

Paid for minutes of 1926	\$15.00
Paid clerk for 1926	10.00
Balance in treasury	10.75
Total	\$35.75

W. R. DORMAN, Treasurer.

A Card of Thanks by the Clerk.

In God we trust and on the vicinity of Mt. Willing church, and on the visiting brethren during the session; we pray God's blessings.

H. G. TOUCHTON, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Rev. M. H. Touchton, O'Brien, Fla.
Rev. J. H. Cruce, Perry, Fla.
Rev. B. W. Carlton, Perry, Fla.
Rev. W. J. Williams, Mayo, Fla.
Rev. Pate Williams, Perry, Fla.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Mount Willing, Suwanee County, Fla., Rev. J. H. Cruce, Pastor. Received by baptism 1, expelled and dismissed 1, died 1, total number of members 53.

H. G. TOUCHTON, Clerk,
O'Brien, Fla.

Saint John's Church, Taylor County, Fla., Rev. B. W. Carlton, Pastor. Received by baptism, none; received by conversion, none; dismissed and died, none. Total membership 45.

W. R. DORMAN, Clerk,

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be known as the North Florida Free Will Baptist Association.

2. It shall be composed of: (1) The ministers, both ordained and licentiate, belonging thereto. (2) Legal delegates from the churches composing the same.

3. Requirements for churches: Each church shall be required to send up an annual report to the Association, in which they shall make a brief statement of the work of the pastor; report the character and usefulness of the ministers whose membership is with them; give the name and postoffice of the church clerk; give the number baptized, restored by letter, dismissed by letter, excluded, died, the number of members and the amount paid for association purposes.

4. Each church in the Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own internal affairs, having the unrestricted right to administer its own government without suspension or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute.

5. This body shall be considered an advisory council, whose duty it is to meet annually at such places as may be agreed upon at the previous session, and not to adjourn formally until all business is settled, and while there it shall be its duty to examine all questions of general interest to the association, and to use its best influence to promote all moral and benevolent means and institutions, such as education, Sabbath schools, missionary and temperance work, etc.

6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, chosen annually by a majority of votes.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association, must adopt our Articles of Faith and conform to its usage.

8. Every regular church shall be entitled to as many delegates as they deem to be necessary.

9. This constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this Association by a majority of votes.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At the meeting of each session of the Association the officers of the preceding session shall preside until their successors shall be known.

2. At each meeting and prior to proceeding to business, the names of the delegates shall be called.

3. At the close of each session the entire proceedings of each session shall be read for correction and approval.

4. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

5. No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission of the body.

6. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion.

7. When a question is under discussion no motion or proposition shall be received, except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall be preferred in the order which they are stated.

8. After a motion has been decided, any member having voted in the affirmative may vote a reconsideration.

9. No member shall absent himself during the session without the permission of the presiding officer, and none shall take final leave without the permission of the body.

10. The Association has the right to decide what matters shall be admitted to its consideration.

11. The body shall elect a Sunday School Board annually, and it shall consist of six members from the various churches of the Association and they shall report annually.

12. Resolved, That this body shall not receive any minister in her bounds to preach or exercise authority unless he first proves the churches that compose this body.

13. We will not allow any minister to become a member of our body unless he has deposited his membership in some one of the churches that comprise this body.

14. We, as a body, agree not to support anyone offering himself for office, either state or national, who uses or is in favor of the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. We want all our churches to hold their members subject to these resolutions.

15. The Association will not use any finance sent in by the various churches, only for actual expenses of this body.

16. This body shall annually elect one or more evangelistic workers in the Association and they shall report to this body while in session as to their work.

17. This body, while in session, and before the final conclusion, shall commemorate the Paschal Supper.

18. These Rules of Decorum may be amended at each session of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes.—I. Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things the only begotten Son of God, born of the virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both quick and dead.—I. Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16. Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; I. John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; Johr 3:15-17; I. Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; 1 John 5:1, 10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II. Tim. 3:16, 17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3-5. Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation. for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45, 65. Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the

grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4. II. Peter 2:1; II. Thess. 2:11, 12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the kingdom of God."—I. Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8. Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice farther than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31. Matt. 25:31-46.

15. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28, 29; II. Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. This body shall open after each adjournment with prayer.
2. Call for letters. Have them read and names of delegates and ministers enrolled.
3. Call for petitionary letters.
4. Elect Clerk, Treasurer, Moderator, etc.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for corresponding messengers.
7. Appoint committees as follows: On preaching, temperance, finance, nomination, education, Sunday School, state of ministers and deacons, obituaries.
8. Unfinished business.
9. Reports of committees.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Treasurer's report.
12. Executive Committee's report.